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Attachments
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- Animals on Campus Policy
- Win a FREE Office Lunch
- Upward Bound Holiday Drawing – 12 Days of Christmas

Meeting Minutes
Click below:
http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html

A Look Back...

Eighty-five years ago in December of 1920, a faculty group recommended that the school colors be blue and gold. The colors were adopted.

Holiday Reception

Mark your calendars for the annual University Center Rochester Holiday Reception!

Wednesday, December 14, 2005
2:00pm-4:00pm
Heintz Center Commons
Sponsored by the Administration

The Teddy Bear Drive tradition will continue. Once again, UCR employees will be collecting teddy bears and donating them to the local law enforcement agencies this holiday season. These teddy bears are used by officers to comfort children during difficult situations. If you are interested in participating in this worthy cause, you may bring your bear to the Holiday Reception and place under the “Teddy Bear Tree.”

Policy Revisions

Remember, it is every employee's responsibility to familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, state, system, and college policies. All MnSCU and RCTC policies are available through the RCTC website. To find a policy, go to http://www.rctc.edu/policies/, type a keyword to search or choose from the list of categories provided. The website is intended to function as a convenient reference. Although the site is updated regularly, it is impossible to guarantee complete accuracy at all times. In the event of any discrepancy between the policy documents formally approved and the policies listed on the website, the former shall be the governing version. RCTC recently implemented two new policies: Children on Campus and Animals on Campus. A copy of the full policy is attached to this week's Crossings.

Academic Accolades

Susan Jansen, Pediatric Nursing Instructor, participated in some wonderful academic ventures during her sabbatical. She completed five courses in Transcultural Nursing at Augsburg College. The courses included Transcultural health care, politics and health inequities in health care, community health nursing I and II and transcultural healing practices. She completed clinicals at Hawthorne Education Center in Rochester, the Migrant Health Clinic in Rochester, MN and did a community assessment of Plainview, MN. She also volunteered at the Ronald McDonald House in Rochester and worked approximately 500 hours at Rochester Methodist Hospital.
**Marketing Fact**
According to bestplaces.net, 93% of Rochester residents age 25 and older are high school graduates (compared to 80.4% nationally). 14.9% of Rochester residents age 25 and older have graduate degrees (compared to 7% nationally).

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**Classical Guitar Music**
Please join us for an evening of classical guitar music as well as holiday favorites! Students from the RCTC classical guitar studio will perform solos, duets and ensemble literature. Our special guests will be students from the Crossroads College Suzuki Guitar Studio.

*Tuesday December 6, 2005 at 6 p.m in the Hill theater. Admission is free!*

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**Crossings Classifieds**
**For Sale:** Excellent investment - 2001 split entry, 2 car attached garage, live in upper and rent lower which has kit, 2 beds, full bath, living room, w/d, AC, great for owner occupancy. Call Jean Musgjerd at 507-282-9330

**For Sale:** The Gardens: 2001 Patriot, 16' X 80'; 3 bdrm; 2 bath; 20' X 28' garage; C/A; all appliances; quiet neighborhood; $40,000. Call Jeff Danielson at 507-251-2673 or 507-289-3109

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**Lost and Found**
The Lost and Found box is OVERFLOWING. Lots of items have been collected since the beginning of Fall semester. If you’ve checked before, stop again between 8AM and 4PM. Items will be available through December 16. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity. Lost and Found is located at the Atrium Information Desk.

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**Pottery Sale**
An Art Club fund-raising event! Tuesday December 13 from 10:00am to 1:00pm in AH200 Ceramics Studio.

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**12 Days of Christmas – HOLIDAY DRAWING**
**12 PRIZES, 12 LUCKY WINNERS**
*plus 2 extra prizes which means 2 more winners. WOW.*

Tickets: 10 for $5.00

The drawing is open to everyone. Tickets may be purchased from Deb in the Student Support Services office, SS150 or from the Upward Bound Heintz Center office, HA116 or email Molly Rohe and have tickets delivered to you.

*Prizes: 14kt gold, Citrine Ring and 14 kt Tri-Gold Bracelet; Kahler Grand Hotel, 2 night getaway with chilled champagne and $50 for dinner; Treasure Island, One night stay and buffet dinner for 2; Rochester Art Center, Family Membership; Victorian Basket and Handmade Blanket; Winter Wear and Snow Bear; Holiday Moose Basket; Coffee Time Holiday Basket; Minnesota Wolf Basket; Gingerbread Basket; Candy Cane Basket; Night Before Christmas Basket and two additional “surprise” baskets.*

Items on display Dec 6-10 on the 4th floor. The drawing will be held on December 10, 1:00 PM by Upward Bound students at the Heintz Center. You do not need to be present to win.

*All Proceeds go to the RCTC Upward Bound Scholarship Fund.*
The next meeting of the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 7-10 a.m. at Edina Realty on Salem Road. The committee will continue to work with consultants to identify the economic impact of an expanded upper-division and research higher education operation in Rochester and begin drafting recommendations for the legislative report. Although the legislation calls for a report due January 15, 2006, with the legislative session start date delayed until March, the committee will likely seek a delay or postponement of the report until February. The public is encouraged to attend these open committee meetings and a public comment segment is a standing agenda item. I hope to see more of you in attendance as the committee begins to refine recommendations.

Sharing the good news…

- Following review of the interim report for the RCTC Vet Tech Program, the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities granted continued provisional accreditation to our program. Although report updates are required, the next accreditation visit is scheduled for 2010. Congratulations to Vet Tech faculty and students.
- Earlier this month, Mike Mutchelknaus, Scott Sahs and Paula Theisen graduated from the Academy for Leadership and Development after successfully completing the program requirements. The Academy is a program created in conjunction with the Maricopa Community College District, in Mesa, Arizona for the purpose of advancing organizational leadership with the MnSCU system. The Academy is a year-long program which includes an initial week of on-site training; a practicum experience involving implementation of a professional development plan; a mentor program; and a final week of on-site training consisting of additional leadership issues. RCTC’s representative in this year’s program is Jessie Martinez.
- Pam Benson, CDA instructor, and doubles partner Wendy Miller won the Women’s 40-over division at the Minnesota State Doubles Racquetball Tournament in the Twin Cities. Congratulations on the great accomplishment, Pam.
- Jerry Casper and his talented performers put on a tremendous performance for a handful of appreciative spectators in the Hill Theatre Family Fund Show. The variety of acts and talent of the performers and technicians was exceptional. Immediately following the show, to the second smallest audience he performed for, Jerry made a decision that it would be the final Family Fund Show. But, as he later reflected, “I’m stubborn…I think this could be a really fun yearly event…I’m open for suggestions on how to make this work.” So, if you’ve got some ideas for Jerry, please forward them to him ASAP. Then, when our talented colleagues take the stage next year, make a commitment to attend and contribute to a very worthy cause. Thanks, Jerry and friends!
- IBM, a long-standing RCTC business partner, earned the Tekne Award for Innovation by an established company and again achieved #1 ranking on the Top 500 for the power of the Blue Gene Supercomputer. Recently, the White House announced that IBM has been honored with the National Medal of Technology. This is the highest honor awarded by the President to America’s leading innovators. The purpose of the medal is to recognize those who have made lasting contributions to America’s competitiveness, standard of living, and quality of life through technological innovation. The announcement recognizes IBM’s four decades of innovation in semiconductor technologies and microprocessor integration.

Come and enjoy coffee, a presentation by Minnesota’s State Demographer Tom Gillaspy and State Economist Tom Stinson, followed by engaging conversation with friends and neighbors. The next “Coffee and Conversations is scheduled for Monday, December 5, 7 p.m. in the Kellogg Middle School (503 17th Street NE) auditorium. The event is free, open to the public, and co-sponsored by a collaboration of community groups (including RCTC).

Beginning this week, and continuing until early February, a series of information technology surveys will be released to a variety of constituency groups by the Organizational and Effectiveness Research Center at MSU-Mankato. The surveys comprise the second phase of a systemwide IT assessment that started last spring with a survey of college and university students. The goal is to provide all academic and administrative employees the opportunity to respond to this MnSCU IT assessment. I encourage you to take time to complete the survey when it arrives.

The official numbers are in and fall enrollment at Minnesota’s colleges, universities and career schools increased 1.3 percent over 2004, according to figures released by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. Enrollment changes at public institutions across the state were flat, while private career schools posted the largest gains, with a 15 percent increase. The numbers do not include primarily online higher education providers such as Capella University.

Thought for the week…

"We’re beginning to find out that what’s going on in that black box called college is less than we had hoped; that maybe the ‘higher’ in higher education is lower than we think.”

-- Richard Hersh, Former President, Trinity College (CT)

When you’re out holiday shopping, don’t forget a bear or two for under the RCTC Caring Tree.
Horticulture Holiday Sale

Poinsettias
4.5” pot 1 stem/pot for $6.00
7” pot 3 stems/pot for $13.00

Fraser Fir Wreaths for $16.00
Boxwood trees $20.00 (available 12/1)
Kissing balls $10.00 (available 12/6)
Centerpieces $15.00 (available 12/13)

Holiday Hours
Mon. Nov. 28: 2-4pm
Tues. Nov. 29: 8-10:50am
Wed. Nov. 30: 2-4pm
Thurs. Dec. 1: 10-12noon
Mon. Dec. 5: 2-4pm
Tues. Dec. 6: 8-10am
Wed. Dec. 7: 2-4pm
Thurs. Dec. 8: 10-12noon
Mon. Dec. 12 & Wed. Dec. 14: 2-4pm

All sales are in the Horticulture Technology Center at the Heintz Center

Growing for you,
Robin Vern & Hort Students

RCTC Apparel – Christmas Sale!

On Monday and Tuesday, December 5 & 6 (from 7:00 am on) there will be a Christmas Sale in the Atrium. All shirts and sweats at 20% off. We will be able to personalize them by putting names or numbers on the shirts or sweats. If you have a photo we can reduce or blow it up and put on a tee shirt or on one of your items. These make great Christmas presents.

The shirts on sale will be from some of the Athletic teams.

If you would like to bring your own shirt and have it personalized, I am sure Bill Brunner won't mind.

-Brad LaPlante

Minutes – pages 5-6
ITEM 1 (A) Computer Concerns Follow-up:

a) Remote Access – Gilsrud announced options to remote access can be investigated, but will depend on the audience that is in need of the service; noting a dial-up access is available within Rochester and many hotels are moving to wireless and dial up services outside of Rochester. Gust responded the issue relates more to the restricted use of remote access (down from midnight to 6:00am). Gilsrud responded currently the length of down-time is due to the need for system back-up, adding, however, consideration is being made to mirroring the storage so the server doesn’t have to be down during the back-up process. If a new process can be implemented with existing capital equipment funds, the remote access down time may be delayed until 2:00 a.m. or 3:00 a.m. Gust questioned who should be contacted during the weekend hours if remote access problems occur. Gilsrud responded staff are on-call to handle problems during the weekend. ACTION: Gilsrud will investigate the possibility of delaying back-up until 2:00 a.m.

b) Local Workstation Login – Gilsrud announced a meeting was held regarding the workstation login issue, and possible solutions to the concern include utilizing a back-up server that can be used when the main server is down, or providing laptop computers to the faculty in need of computer hook-up during classes. ACTION: Information Technology will further investigate the options for a back-up server.

ITEM 2 (F) Follow-up on Safety in the Classrooms (Phones) – Gilsrud announced the solution to address safety concerns in the classroom may be a combination facilities and information technology issue. Hansmann added landline phones would not be installed if there is a futuristic solution under consideration. Supalla suggested that when the upcoming inventory of the rooms is conducted, available phone service be determined. Wright added it may be difficult to determine because of the numerous plans used by a variety of people, and what may have service for one provider may not have service for another provider. Bequette suggested cell phone service availability be included as part of the walk-around planned for the classrooms by the task force visiting rooms for improvements. Cram indicated there are devices available on the market that convert remote phones to landline phones through a data plug-in. ACTION: Checking cell phone coverage will be added to the Five Worst Classroom Committee and Cram will further investigate the option of converting remote phones through a data plug-in.

ITEM 2 (A) Search Update – Arntson distributed the Search Team Timelines and announced an orientation session would be conducted for the members serving on upcoming searches. Marconett questioned if the wording on the postings are published as submitted by the faculty. Arntson responded the vacancy announcements are finalized after preferred qualifications are determined. Wright questioned the Dean of Teaching and Learning posting. Bequette responded the Dean of Distance Education and Associate Dean searches both failed, hence the change to just a Dean of Teaching and Learning. Wright questioned if having a Dean of Teaching and Learning and a Director of Distance Education would exceed the salary costs previously used for one Dean of Continuing Education. Supalla responded the positions are different classification; hence there is still a cost savings. Arntson added the new Dean position is a combination of responsibilities currently held by two Deans. Marconett questioned the Office Specialist posting. Arntson noted the position will be a site supervisor for events at the Sports Center, adding the classification may not be appropriate, but there was no other classification that appropriately reflects the site supervisor responsibilities. Bequette announced there will be an Interim Dean of Teaching and Learning posting in the next few weeks for a sabbatical replacement, adding the position will be an internal search. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 3 (A) Student Success Day Follow-up – Bequette announced the final Student Success Day survey results have not been tabulated, but preliminary information reflects over 750 students participated in the event, which is significantly higher than predicted. Bequette also noted preliminary comments suggest it was faculty encouragement and individual recognition of its importance that brought the students to the activities. ACTION: Final numbers of participants will be shared college-wide at the November Staff Development Day.

ITEM 4 (A) 2006-07 Calendar Proposal and ITEM 3 (F) Student Success Day – Supalla announced the latest draft proposal for the 2006-07 calendar reflects a change in Spring Break to coincide with WSU for convenience by dual enrolled students. Wright announced the Faculty Senate supports the proposed calendar proposal, emphasizing, however, that the support for a spring Student Success Day is split amongst the faculty. Wright requested the spring Student Success Day not be automatic each year, but rather reviewed and discussed during calendar planning. Bequette agreed to not automatically place the spring Student Success Day on the future calendars without discussion with the faculty, emphasizing, however, that the spring activities will not be repeats of fall semester, but rather include different topics of interest (i.e. job search or resume writing). Wright added some faculty believe the students are only attending the event for extra credit, hence attending for the wrong reason. Bequette agreed often the students that need the information the most are not attending, but was pleased with the student comments in the survey that reflect they attended for themselves. Supalla agreed, adding the day was originally developed because satisfaction surveys continually reflected students believed they were not being informed of their progress, and that need exists in the spring as well as the fall. ACTION: The Faculty support the 2006-07 Academic Calendar (with a spring Student Success Day and the change in spring break).
ITEM 5 (A) FY07 Tuition and Fees Request/Budget Information – Hansmann distributed proposals of 4-7% tuition increases with an assumption of flat enrollment, adding the College is planning on submitting a 5% tuition increase request to MnSCU. A discussion occurred regarding the need to continually build the parking fund in order to provide ample parking for students. Supalla stated that UCR parking fees are comparable to those of comparable two-year colleges in the Metro area. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 6 (A) Health Science Renovation Schedule – Hansmann announced design documents are being reviewed and preliminary costing information indicates the project should come in on or near budget. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 7 (A) 2006 Bonding Proposal – Supalla announced legislative visits have been held to review HEAPR projects on the 2006 bonding list. Supalla added the local legislators are compiling a priority list for Rochester, which MAY include support for the HEAPR projects, Regional Public Safety Training Center, Workforce Development Center, and steam line extension. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 4 (F) Center of Excellence – Wright requested more information on the recently announced Center of Excellence. Bequette responded the Health Science Center is a short term partnership with Winona State University (funded by MnSCU) that will position Minnesota as a leader in health care education and practices. Bequette added the funds would be used for new faculty hires (both at WSU and RCTC) and curriculum development. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 1 (F) Faculty Offices – Wright requested “15 worst faculty offices” also be designated along with the five worst classrooms. ACTION: Wright will forward the request to K. Olson for consideration by the task force.

ITEM 8 (A) Cabinet Title Changes – Supalla announced the proposals to change the titles of several Cabinet level positions has been supported by MnSCU and will be implemented after sharing with constituency groups. ACTION: Information Only.

Adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 22, 2005 – 2:00pm – AT109